

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 24-33 and 37-53 are pending in this case. Claims 1-23 and 34-36 are canceled by the present amendment. No new matter is presented.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Khoo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,434,747) in view of Reynolds (U.S. Patent No. 6,742,183); and Claims 12-23 and 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Khoo et al. in view of Reynolds and in further view of Hendricks et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,600,364). Claims 24-33 and 37-53 were allowed.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In the spirit of moving prosecution forward for the present application, Claims 1-23 and 34-36 are canceled and the rejections thereto rendered moot. However, the Applicant reserves the right to present Claims 1-23 and 34-36, or similar claims, in a continuation application and to address any traversed issues in such application.

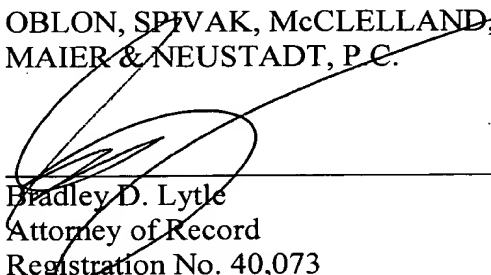
The present amendment is submitted in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116, which after Final Rejection permits entry of amendments, canceling rejected claims, or complying with requirements of form set forth in a previous Office Action. As the present amendment merely cancels rejected Claims 1-23 and 34-36, it is respectfully requested that the present amendment be entered.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 24-33 and 37-53 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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